



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Elk Refuge
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USDA Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
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Jackson, Wyoming 83001
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INTERAGENCY NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2006

CRITICAL WINTER RANGE WILDLIFE CLOSURES LIFTED BEGINNING MAY 1

National Elk Refuge Manager Barry Reiswig and Bridger-Teton National Forest Supervisor Kniffy Hamilton announce the Spring opening of the Curtis Canyon and Flat Creek Roads and the removal of special Forest winter travel restrictions. Starting Monday, May 1 at 8:00 AM, the Refuge Road will be open to public travel beyond the county-maintained line, allowing access to the Curtis Canyon and Flat Creek Roads and the adjoining National Forest. These roads, along with critical winter range areas on the Forest, are closed from December 1 through April 30 to protect wintering wildlife.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel remind area visitors and residents that access through the Refuge is restricted to public roads only; all off-road travel is prohibited, including hiking, biking or other recreational activities. Additionally, it is illegal to remove antlers from the National Elk Refuge. Persons accessing the National Forest after the May 1 opening to look for elk antlers are responsible for knowing and respecting the boundaries to avoid violating Federal regulations.

Travel plan maps for the Bridger-Teton National Forest are available at each of the Forest district offices as well as the Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center located at 532 N. Cache Street in Jackson.

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**www.fws.gov/nationalelkrefuge
www.fs.fed.us/btnf**
